Docket No.: 1254-0298PUS1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Takashi HIRAO et al.

Application No.: 10/556,903 Confirmation No.: 7071

Filed: November 15, 2005 Art Unit: 1637

For: QUANTITATIVE PCR METHOD OF

DETECTING SPECIFIC PLANT GENUS IN

FOOD OR FOOD INGREDIENT

Examiner: A. M. Bertagna

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Communication dated March 31, 2008, please amend the aboveidentified U.S. patent application as follows:

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.